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*(See attached file: R6 Daily News Digest 05-01-13.pdf)*

1 - Sinkhole commissioners to brief public Wednesday night, BRADV, 5/1/13

<http://theadvocate.com/home/5854127-125/sinkhole-commissioners-brief-public-wednesday>

A majority of the 13-member Blue Ribbon Commission investigating the Assumption Parish sinkhole plans to attend a community meeting at 6 p.m. Wednesday in Napoleonville to deliver a public briefing on the panel's work to date, state regulators said Tuesday.

2 - New questions surround McLennan County emergency planning, WFAA, 4/30/13

<http://www.wfaa.com/news/investigates/New-questions-surround-McLennan-Co-Emergency-Plan-Committee--205480441.html>

McLennan County has been receiving federal dollars to help run a federally-mandated emergency planning committee that may not exist, a News 8 investigation has found.

3 - U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer announces committee investigation of West Fertilizer Co. explosion, federal oversight, DMN, 4/30/13

<http://thescoopblog.dallasnews.com/2013/04/u-s-sen-barbara-boxer-announces-investigation-of-west-explosion.html/>

Sen. Barbara Boxer said the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, which she chairs, will investigate the explosion itself, the effort to determine what happened, and ways in which better regulation could prevent future disasters.

4 - West mayor says Texas town will rebuild, KXAN, 4/30/13

<http://www.kxan.com/dpp/news/texas/west-mayor-says-texas-town-will-rebuilt>

WEST, Texas (AP) — The mayor of a Texas town devastated by a deadly fertilizer plant explosion says he expects the community to rebuild and he'll do the same.

5 - Treated wastewater blending in, OdessaAmer, 4/30/13

[http://www.oaoa.com/news/government/article\\_36d75450-b117-11e2-ae79-0019bb30f31a.html](http://www.oaoa.com/news/government/article_36d75450-b117-11e2-ae79-0019bb30f31a.html)

Usually the saying goes "out with the old, in with the new" but with the Colorado River Municipal Water District it's "in with the old, mixed with the new." CRMWD completed a \$12 million desalination plant in Big Spring this month and began treating two million gallons of wastewater Thursday and incorporating it back into 45 million gallons of fresh water.

6 - St. John levee progress meeting draws Rep. Cedric Richmond to LaPlace, NOLA, 4/30/13

[http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2013/04/congressman\\_cedric\\_richmond\\_di.html#incart\\_river](http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2013/04/congressman_cedric_richmond_di.html#incart_river)

U.S. Rep. Cedric Richmond on Tuesday evening hosted a town hall meeting at the St. John Parish Community Center in LaPlace to answer questions from parish residents about levee progress, flood insurance increases and the Biggert-Waters Act. Richmond was joined by several representatives from the Army Corps of Engineers.

7 - BP's \$340 million Louisiana restoration payment draws comments from environmental groups, U.S. senators, NOLA, 4/30/13

[http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2013/04/environmental\\_groups\\_us\\_senato.html#incart\\_river](http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2013/04/environmental_groups_us_senato.html#incart_river)

What others are saying about the approval of spending \$340 million from BP early Natural Resource Damage Assessment dollars to rebuild four barrier islands and create two fisheries laboratories in Louisiana:

8 - Editorial: Less is more in the Texas Legislature--and better for Texas, StarTelegram, 4/30/13

<http://www.star-telegram.com/2013/04/30/v-print/4815393/less-is-more-in-the-texas-legislature.html>

The Texas Legislature is trying to do as little as possible this session, which is good news.

9 - EPA Scientists Float Scaled-Back Version Of Endocrine Screening Program, Inside EPA, 4/30/13

<http://insideepa.com/201304302432800/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/epa-scientists-float-scaled-back-version-of-endocrine-screening-program/menu-id-95.html>

A pair of scientists in EPA's research office is proposing a scaled-back version of the first round of testing currently required by the agency's Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program (EDSP), an effort that one of the scientists says is being welcomed by toxics office officials, who are struggling to operate the nearly 20-year-old program.

10 - EPA Planning More Stringent Standards For Stormwater at Newly Developed Sites, BNA, 4/30/13

[http://esweb.bna.com/eslw/1245/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=30834256&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0d8a9v9n3&split=0](http://esweb.bna.com/eslw/1245/split_display.adp?fedfid=30834256&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0d8a9v9n3&split=0)

The Environmental Protection Agency is planning to propose greater retention of stormwater at new developments as compared to redeveloped sites, an agency official said April 30.

11 - Prosperous play's new oil estimates could influence pipeline plans, EENEWS, 5/1/13

<http://www.eenews.net/energywire/2013/05/01/1>

HOUSTON -- The resource potential of the booming Bakken Shale oil and gas zone is much bigger than previously thought, U.S. government geologists announced yesterday.

12 - States scramble as EPA shifts research monitors into regulatory mode, EENEWS, 4/30/13

<http://www.eenews.net/Greenwire/2013/04/30/1>

A little-noticed change in U.S. EPA air policy has turned a national pollution-monitoring network that has been providing data to researchers for 22 years into a regulatory tool, leaving states scrambling to figure out the implications.